



THE COLONNADE

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NUMBER CRUNCH

\$938 billion

**Cost over 10
years of the
health care
overhaul bill
signed into law
March 23.**

Source: www.cbo.gov

Killing students solves Georgia's educational budget problems*

BY STEVE HOLBERT
SATIRIST

Budget cuts on higher education are unacceptable, but it's understandable that this fair state cannot continue to spend its money on colleges. However, the issue is not the institution size. The problem is the student body size and the solution to overly large student bodies is simple — start killing students.

Face it, 10 out of 10 people die, and if half of Georgia's higher education students were removed, then spending would be cut by at least half. The HOPE Scholarship would not be spread too thin and students could have their text-

books paid for once again. Also, dining services could significantly lower their spending because dead bodies don't eat and who needs a cardio workout in a new fitness center when their heart has stopped beating? Fewer students mean less spending.

The state could also make a profit off the death of its higher education students. Once the students are dead, state officials can raid their dorm rooms for jewelry, PSP games and other valuables they could sell on Amazon, and let's not forget the vast amounts of marijuana, alcohol and Adderall the state is also inevitably going to find. Sell the drugs to the sur-

living college students and make a profit.

Now the only question is which students live and which students die? One option is a raffle, but there are other ways to approach the situation. GPA could be an important factor, but the state should also consider which students actually desire higher education. The student in the front row taking notes lives. The students sleeping and playing Chatroulette die. If there's a student smoking within 30 feet of a building, take them out. If it comes down to it, let the students decide. Allow students to report others who hinder their education and let the state remove

this hindrance. What better way to fix an overly party-ing roommate than with a death threat?

Before shots are fired, it's important to see how the students feel. College students are at an unimaginably high stress level. They also know upon graduation it's highly unlikely they'll find a job in this economy and they will be swimming up to their eyeballs in debt. Fine arts students and English majors are already destined for a life of poverty, so why not put them down easy?

Once the child is dead, parents are going to ask questions, so I've prepared a generic letter.

We at GCSU regret to

inform you, but your son and/or daughter did not make the cut. They are — excuse us — were a disgrace to our school and your family, so we killed them. If you are upset we suggest you have another child to fill the void, and if you would like to donate money to the school in their memory please contact us immediately.

This plan is flawless, and I believe it should start in June 2012, after I graduate.

**This article is a satirical piece and not meant to harm anyone. The Colonnade does not condone killing of students. Happy April Fool's!*



DRAKE SIMONS / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Got 'em!

Senior environmental science major Kyle Edenfield reels a bass in March 27. The GCSU fishing team competed against 14 other teams from across the Southeast in the first-ever Georgia Southern Collegiate Bass Fishing Series at Lake Sinclair.

Fraternity looks to set up at GCSU

BY COURTNEY KELLY
STAFF WRITER

An interest group for the fraternity Theta Chi has formed at GCSU with hopes of reaching chapter status by Spring 2011. There are three stages for groups to go through during the process of becoming a fraternity — interest group, colony and chapter.

Sophomore pre-mass communication major Joe Longoria started the interest group after going through spring rush this semester and declining the bids he received.

"I don't have a problem with Greek life at all, it's just I didn't really think there were many options," Longoria said.

Longoria chose to bring Theta Chi to GCSU because his father is an alumnus and his brother is currently in the fraternity at the University of Georgia. After coming up with the initial idea to start an interest group, he said he approached some of his friends to see if they were interested as well.

"I was definitely into it. I thought the fraternity system could use a fresh addition," said sophomore political science major Michael McCarthy.

Once Longoria got a group of about 11 interested people, he contacted Theta Chi's national headquarters and said that he wanted to make an interest group. After he mailed a formal declaration, Theta Chi's governing body, the grand chapter, sent sev-

Theta Chi page 4

University Senate passes amnesty bill

BY MATT ROGERS
STAFF REPORTER

The GCSU University Senate unanimously passed a new student amnesty policy March 29.

During the session, no senator verbally showed disagreement with the policy.

"(GCSU is) more concerned with students seeking treatment than prosecuting them," said Student Affairs Policy Committee Chair Macon McGinley.

While the policy appears to positively affect students, the language in the policy has been an unwritten rule GCSU has been following.

"We have told students at the Week of Welcome about this, but it has never been formally documented," said Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students Bruce Harshbarger.

The unwritten rule has been in effect for about six to eight years but now is a "good time to have it in writing," Harshbarger said.

Some students feel this policy being passed shows that the university is putting student safety first.

"(The policy) is good because I would rather have people seek help than fear punishment," said freshman political science major Lauren Crapo.

Having the policy formally written down ensures more protection for students.

"(This policy) is positive (for students). Not really any negatives," said Wesley Chaffin, a sophomore political science major. "It is a good idea to get it down on paper."

SAPC reviewed a second draft of the policy Feb. 5. The committee agreed on the name

Amnesty page 4

National reforms to affect college students

BY MATT CHAMBERS
SENIOR REPORTER

Over the past two weeks, President Barack Obama has signed two new bills into law that have a direct impact on college students, as well as the rest of the U.S. population. Students will see a direct impact from the new laws. This is how:

Health care reform

On March 23, changes to American health insurance policies became a reality.

The new bill allows students and non-married citizens to stay on their parent's health insurance plan until the age of 26 unless they have an offer of coverage through their employer and beginning in 2014 even if they



Health Care Reform

Insurance after graduation

Before

Graduates typically unable to remain on parent's insurance due to full-time student requirement.

After

Students and non-married citizens allowed to stay on their parent's health insurance plan until the age of 26.

GRAPHIC BY REBECCA BURNS

have an offer of coverage through their employer. Under the current system, students can typically only be considered for health insurance if they are claimed as a dependant on their parents' taxes and they are full-time students under 23 years of age. Students may not see this change un-

til fall semester since the health insurance companies don't have to change their policy until September.

The new law also extends coverage opportunities to many Americans who cannot afford to have health insurance. The new changes

Reform page 6

Flashback:



GCSW students play a game of pool in 1954. GCSU students can still be found playing the game in residence halls across campus.

This month in Colonnade history:

Students submitted a proposal for rule changes to the Georgia State College for Women’s CGA, whose name was not fully given. One item on the proposal: the ability to smoke in public. At the time, women were not allowed this freedom. While the majority wanted the rule to change, others did not want the town to worry about GSCW students negatively influencing its teenage daughters.
April 1, 1952
Vol. 29 No. 9

Parks Memorial Hospital recieved a renovation during the spring of 1965. The refurbished hospital was “bright, modern and comfortable,” reporter Fran Reynolds wrote. Parks Memorial Hospital renamed Parks Memorial and received another renovation that was completed in 2009. The building is the home of College of Health Sciences, which includes the nursing, kinesiology and outdoor education departments.
April 1, 1965
Vol. 40 No. 10

Several important changes were proposed to the judiciary system of the College Government Association of Georgia College. The changes included: the name of the Honor Council being changed to Student Judiciary, the student body electing one chairman to vote only in case of a tie, an investigator appointed by the chairman regarding student conduct and the abolishment of the current honor code. Those changes needed to be approved by a two-thirds majority in the Senate and then be presented to the student body for ratification or rejection
March 31, 1972
Vol. 47 No. 4

Issues of The Colonnade from 1925 to 1975 are now available to be viewed on microfilm in the library.

Bookstore opens in Campus Theatre

Official grand opening set for April 20

BY DANIELLE PALUGA
STAFF WRITER

Over spring break a new bookstore opened its doors in downtown Milledgeville in the historic Campus Theatre. The new GCSU theater bookstore was named Box Office Books after the winners of the naming contest were chosen.

Two freshmen, psychology major Jessica Carnes and pre-engineering major Cara Powell, submitted the chosen name during the bookstore-naming contest.

Powell said that she brainstormed many ideas with her friends and family, but came up with Box Office Books on her own.

“Since the store is in the old theater I wanted to keep with that theme,” Powell said. “Another one I came up with was Limelight Literature, but it was a little long so I didn’t submit it.”

Both winners will receive prize money in the form of gift cards to the



CLAIRE DYKES / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Dustin Banks and freshman Bethany Parks browse through selection at Box Office Books, the only retail bookstore in Milledgeville since the closing of Waldenbooks in November.

bookstore.
“My parents are very happy about my winning. It’ll be money towards books,” Powell said.
Powell did not get a call saying she had won, but actually saw it on the Web site so it was a “total surprise.”
Carnes said she submitted many entries, some of

Bookstore page 3

Creative music media minor begins in fall

BY ALLISON BRAMLETT
SENIOR REPORTER

A new minor in creative music media will be added to GCSU’s music department starting next fall. It will give interested students a foundation in music theory, music technology and improvisation in order to creatively use music technology.

The music department began discussing the addition of some type of music industry degree, such as music production or music business, about two years ago. However, the department did not have the space or equipment for a full music production degree, but once they were able to move the electronic studio to a larger room, they were able to create a minor from the creative aspect of music technology rather than the technical aspect. As a composer, Dr. Douglas O’Grady, an assistant professor of music, does a lot of electronic music composition and knew he could offer students some of his expertise.

“The beauty of it is we made this minor with existing courses that we already had,” O’Grady said. “We’re not really using new resources. We’ve got the classes in place, we’ve got the instructors and

we’ve got the room. We’re just ordering which courses you take when and calling it a minor.”

There are currently four music technology classes, two of which were recently added. O’Grady noticed that students who were not music majors or even minors generally filled up the seats for these classes.

Students were coming in as other majors who were interested in music and wanted to work in the studio. The students were either self-taught or played an instrument not covered by the music department, such as electric guitar.

The minor will require 18 extra hours as with any other minor. The students will take two semesters of elementary music theory and three classes in music technology. Students will also be required to take two classes to learn piano.

“The reason I did that was because when we work in the studio, the main interface between us and the computer, is a piano keyboard so they need to have the skills, whatever their instrument,” O’Grady said.

Also required are two one-hour courses

Minor page 4

Information on applying for 2010-11 SABBC funds

SPECIAL TO THE COLONNADE

The Student Activity Budget Committee is now considering requests for funds for the 2010-11 academic year. In order to be considered for allocation, each student activity fee funded group, or group wishing to be funded for the first time, must submit a budget preparation statement stating the overall purpose and objectives of the group, justification for funding of the group, budgetary explanations for the next fiscal year, and the latest computer printout of the current fiscal year budget (if currently receiving funds). Eight copies are required for submission to SABBC.

Groups are encouraged to provide any comments or information that may assist the SABBC in evaluating the budget request. However the following are specific questions that must be answered in the development of the budget preparation statement:

1. What is the purpose of the organization or activity?
2. What are the goals and objectives of the organization or activity?
3. What are the expected learning outcomes of the organization and how will student activity fees be used to support these outcomes?
4. How does the organization or activity support the educational purpose

of Georgia College & State University?

5. How many students and others are involved in the services provided by the organization or activity?
6. What other sources of funding does the organization or activity receive?
7. How can additional budget expenditures be justified?
8. What services would be curtailed and/or deleted if the budget allocation were lower than this year’s level?
9. What additional services would be provided if additional funds were given?

In summary, the budget request should reflect all proposed expenditures for the next fiscal year and eight copies are required. Groups should indicate who prepared the budget request and obtain a faculty/staff adviser’s signature and eight copies of the latest computer printout of the budget should also be submitted if the organization is returning.

Detailed information on the Student Activity Budget Committee can be found on the GCSU Web site at www.gcsu.edu/studentlife/advisory.htm.

All information is due to Dr. Paul Jahr in the office of Student Affairs (Parks Hall, Room 206) by 4 p.m. on March 19.

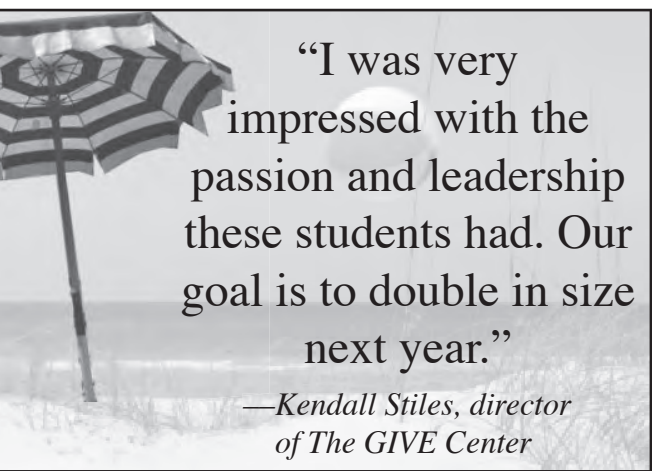
Student volunteers spend spring break giving back

BY AMANDA BODDY
SENIOR REPORTER

A group of 18 GCSU students spent their spring breaks in Savannah serving others without sacrificing time on the beach soaking up the sun. A new program through The GIVE Center called Service by the Sea provided an opportunity for an alternative spring break to be offered to GCSU students. Students could sign up and experience a fun, alcohol-free spring break while also helping people in the Savannah community.

The group ventured down to Savannah on March 21 to stay at the local YMCA, which housed the volunteers for the week for free. While in Savannah, the students spent time at different organizations around the city.

They started off at a food bank separating pro-



GRAPHIC BY REBECCA BURNS

duce and a wildlife center relining trails and cleaning cages. They also spent time cleaning at Fort Pulaski National Monument. Another day they volunteered at the humane society as well as an adult daycare building a garden. They spent their last day in Savannah cleaning up the beach at Tybee Island.

Senior English major Belinda Dennis was the servant leader of the trip, meaning she was in charge of the planning, organizing and leading of the trip. She found the trip fulfilling and the projects hit close to home for her.

“I really enjoyed working at the humane society because I love animals,” Dennis said.

Although the group went with the purpose of serving a community, they didn’t have to sacri-

Volunteers page 6

Theater major wins awards for costumes

BY DRAKE SIMONS
STAFF WRITER

The Theatre Department at GCSU gained exposure when sophomore theater major Matt Riley took home first place at a recent regional competition. Professionals associated with the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival nominated Riley for costumes designed for GCSU productions “The Rover” and “Sueño.”

After being nominated, Riley traveled with seven other students from GCSU to the regional festival in Murfreesboro, Tenn. Riley competed in two separate categories: costume design, and technical design and craft. Riley was new to the judging process and had limited support from friends and professors as Riley was the first GCSU student to go to the regional competition for design.

“There’s this room; a giant gallery full of all these 8-by-4 walls. You set up your display there and (the respondents) will come around. You have a certain time that you are given and you stand there,” Riley said. “They’ll ask you, ‘What was the inspiration behind your design?’ or ‘Where are your color palette choices?’ They give you a five to 10 minute response and then you are done.”

Riley’s two costume pieces from “Sueño” won him the Barbizon Award for Theatrical Design Excellence in Costumes. The masks that he created for “The Rover” earned him a second place for the SETC/ Region IV Award for Technical Design and Craft. He is now waiting to have his works judged at the national level where one winner from each category will be announced April 16.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY DRAKE SIMONS
Sophomore theater major Matt Riley shows off one of his decorated masks used in “The Rover.” Riley’s design came in second place for a regional award for technical design and craft.

News of the award traveled quickly back to the GCSU campus. Riley called assistant professor of costume design, Eric Griffis, to give him the news personally.

“I was thrilled. It’s a big deal for him and it is also a big deal for the department and the school to get this kind of recognition,” Griffis said. “I was very proud to say that it is my student going to nationals.”

Griffis taught Riley in costume classes and worked with him throughout the production of both plays. Griffis logged 83 hours throughout the week preceding “Sueño” working on costume construction. Riley spent an estimated 65 hours the same week working along with eight additional students from the costume construc-

tion class.

“‘Sueño’ was a collaboration where I designed the costumes and people helped construct them,” Riley said.

GCSU Theatre Chair Karen Berman was previously the president of the Association for Theatre in Higher Education. While president, it was her responsibility to deliver the award checks to the KCACTF winners in Washington, D.C.

“This regional award is amazing. Matt competed against graduate theatre design students and won. Most often, costume design is done by faculty,” Berman said. “A sophomore designing a main stage show such as he did for ‘Sueño’ is unusual and indicative of his outstanding talent. He delivered an amazing design.”

Fading interest in QB investigation

BY ELISE COLCORD
STAFF WRITER

Roughly three weeks ago, Milledgeville was teeming with national media outlets like TMZ, ESPN, the Pittsburgh Post Gazette, Pittsburgh Tribune and The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, all hoping to report on two-time Superbowl winner Ben Roethlisberger’s fate.

Currently the investigation is still ongoing with little definitive progress. ESPN and the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review have stated that there is little physical evidence to propel the case forward.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation has withdrawn its DNA re-

quest for Roethlisberger and Capital City’s video surveillance is now non-existent. The Milledgeville Police Department is still in the process of conducting investigations into the exact nature of the case.

The GBI announced that the videotapes from Capital City with segments of Roethlisberger on them were recorded over leaving the GBI and MPD with little to no visual evidence.

National news sources are all in a wait-and-see mode with the ongoing investigation of the sexual assault on a GCSU student. No charges have been made against the Pittsburgh Steeler’s quarterback.

Locally, Capital City’s manager, Rocky Duncan, said that there will be new security measures taken for the club, but could not comment in detail about the exact aspects just yet. One new security aspect is certain in Duncan’s opinion.

“No more celebrities in the club,” Duncan said.

Duncan also said that he had not noticed a change in attendance following the incident.

Milledgeville’s Chief Woodrow Blue was unavailable for a comment on the current status of the case.

So far it is a waiting game to see what authorities will find as the investigation continues.

Bookstore

Continued from page 2...

which were rather humorous such as The South Will Rise Again Books.

“I put a lot of thought into the history of the building and the culture of the area, as well as what sounded awesome and grabbed attention,” Carnes said. “As soon as I said the name aloud I knew it was the one.”

Overall, the contest received around 200 entries. Out of the top 20, Box Office Books was liked the most by the community according to Harry Battson, coordinator of the contest and associate vice president of university communications.

So far, reaction to the new name has been positive.

“People that I have spoken with believe the name is catchy and that it immediately conjures up the original purpose of the building as a movie theater,” Battson said.

Sophomore sociology major Kaitlin Mullins works at the new bookstore

Box Office Books

Operating Hours

Monday - Friday

9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Saturday

11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday

12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

GRAPHIC BY REBECCA BURNS

and worked at the old location for about a year. She likes the new name and said that it is really creative.

The new location is much bigger with books for pleasure, apparel upstairs and textbooks downstairs.

“I’m excited to shop at the new bookstore for textbooks,” Mullins said. “Especially since I get a discount!”

The bookstore is currently open for business, but the official grand opening will take place April 20.

Mai Pham

World-Renown Thai and Vietnamese Chef, Restaurateur and cookbook author.

Chef Mai Pham

will be featured at

the International Station

with Pad Thai Lunch

Friday, April 9TH

from 11:00am to 2:00pm

in the MSU Dining Hall.

Need to repair that unsightly dent from a fender bender you got into a month ago?

Pittman's Offers:

*Collision Repair

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* Headlamp Refurbish

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Located at 300 Hammock Road,

Milledgeville, GA 31061.

Across from Lowe's behind

Century Bank. Contact: 478-452-9721

Athletic department sends Bobcat flying discs to children in Afghanistan

BY COURTNEY MURRAH
STAFF REPORTER

The GCSU Athletic Department recently sent 50 Bobcat flying discs to be distributed by the U.S. Army to children in Afghanistan.

The good deed began when Steve Barsby, GCSU assistant athletic director and head tennis coach, made a trip to Walmart. While there, he met Russell Bloodworth, whose son, Neal, is stationed in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Bloodworth was searching for sporting goods to send to his son overseas to be passed out to children in his unit’s area.

“Along with distributing medicine, setting up schools and all that sort of stuff, one of the things that (U.S. soldiers) do is distribute sporting goods just to keep the kids active and give them something fun to probably put a smile on a very sad situation,” said Al Weston, GCSU sports information director.

Bloodworth explained the situation to Barsby, who was able to give him some of the new flying discs the athletic department had purchased this year.

“They were just talking back and forth and (Bloodworth) said, ‘Coach, do you have anything you might be able to part with and send over there?’ I have these

Frisbees in my office that we for promotional purposes toss them out at games, getting people off their fannies and excited about Bobcat athletics,” Weston said. “Barsby came into my office, grabbed 50 of those, gave them to the guy, and he shipped them to his son in Afghanistan, and they passed them out.”

The flying discs were distributed by Neal Bloodworth and his unit in the village Barek Aub in February.

The younger Bloodworth is an alumnus of GCSU. He joined the army after graduating in 1986. While attending the school, he was a part of the GC ROTC. He is currently the Base Support Group Commander in Barek Aub for the Headquarters of the International Security Assistance Forces.

“(Bloodworth) mentioned in an e-mail that they had to teach them how to throw Frisbees,” Weston said. “They had never seen Frisbees before. He was pretty sure the next time they came to visit, they would probably be using them as plates just because of how downtrodden the area is. But it was still just neat to play around with the kids for a bit.”

The best part of the experience for Weston was seeing the pictures of the smiling kids and

their new flying discs.

“I was like, holy cow, look at what these kids are putting up with and how happy they’d be about just a simple thing like a Frisbee that I’m throwing away at every basketball game basically,” Weston said. “My dog has one of them at home that he’s chewed up. I could have taken that and I could have thrown it in a box and put a smile on another kid’s face over there.”

Megan Smith, a junior biology major, thought that the flying discs were put to good use.

“We have so many Frisbees in our school,” Smith said. “People constantly give out Frisbees and how many of those Frisbees do we have just probably sitting in our room, doing nothing with them. It’s weird how we take things like that for granted. We get it and we’re like, ‘oh yeah, it’s a Frisbee. I got something for free.’ We don’t usually think of it as anything that great.”

Kelli McLane, a junior psychology major and soccer player, is also a supporter of the athletic department sending over the flying discs.

“I think it’s fantastic,” McLane said. “We watched a video about Iraq saying kids are getting more and more involved in sports, but they don’t necessarily have the equipment needed. I think Fris-



SPECIAL TO THE COLONNADE
Two Afghan children examine a flying disc donated by the GCSU Athletic Department to the village Barek Aub.

bees is just a start and I hope we continue to help them.”

McLane will be traveling to Guyana in July as a part of a sports ministry. She is planning to bring soccer balls to give to the kids she meets.

The athletic department has done other charity work in the past, but has kept it on a local scale.

“We get involved with multiple areas locally,” Weston said.

“We’ll go and speak at phys ed. classes at elementary schools about being healthy in general. We’ll go and read to a third grade class at Blandy Hills Elementary, too. We’ve been there a couple of times. There are some classes and things that will come to campus. For a week, they’ll learn how to play basketball from our women’s basketball team. Things like that, but nothing this quite globally spread.”

Minor

Continued from page 2...

in improvisation. According to O’Grady, this class will teach students to improvise as well as gain performance experience through playing in a “jazz combo,” which allows all types of instruments.

Students wanting to become creative music media minors will not need to audition with their instrument like perspective music minors do. In addition, students will not be required to take private lessons, attend recitals or play in a campus ensemble since their instrument may not fit into an ensemble such as an orchestra.

“It’s similar to our music minor, but it’s just got those slight differences where we can accommodate for more students with varied backgrounds in music,” O’Grady said.

The music department wanted the minor to be implemented in the fall of 2009, but its proposal had to go through University Senate and its subcommittee as well as the state Board of Regents.

The department had to present their proposal to the Curriculum and Assessment Policy Committee, the subcommittee in the University Senate that evaluates the GCSU’s curriculum and academic matters.

According to Dr. John Swinton, an associate professor of economic and finance and chair of CAPC, a proposal must demonstrate demand for the major or minor, its funding and application to GCSU’s liberal arts mission.

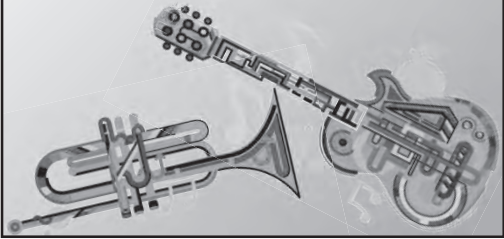
“We tend to be at the viewpoint that the departments know what’s best for themselves,” Swinton said. “If they can show it, we can support it.”

Hary Mitchell, a junior English major, began taking the necessary classes in anticipation that the minor would become official and now only needs two more classes for his minor to be complete.

Mitchell had been playing around on his own computer, doing things similar to what students in the minor will do. After seeing the Sound Sculptures concert last year, Mitchell decided he should put his musical

Creative music media minor

- Course Requirements:18 hours
- two semesters of elementary music theory
 - three classes in music technology
 - two classes to learn piano
 - two one-hour courses in improvisation



GRAPHIC BY REBECCA BURNS

background to use.

“I decided not to be a music major, which was a choice I thought long about. Then I got halfway through my college career and realized I hadn’t utilized the music program at all,” Mitchell said.

In February, Mitchell stepped in last minute to play guitar for the production of “RENT” that was put on by the theatre department. He was called the Sunday night before the Wednesday opening and learned everything in 24 hours.

“We would have never known who he was if we didn’t have this going on, so we’re getting students involved in our music program who we normally wouldn’t even know,” O’Grady said.

Students do not need to go into the classes knowing the programs used. According to Mitchell, students will learn all the basics in the first music technology class. O’Grady wants students to know that this minor, like it’s classes, is not just for music majors.

“They don’t have to play an orchestral instrument. They don’t have to come in here as a violin player,” O’Grady said. “They can come in here and be a rock drummer, and if they are musically inclined and want to take the time to learn music theory ... they can come in and be successful and do some great things.”

Theta Chi

Continued from page 1...

eral alumni and then expansion coordinator Corey Fischer to Milledgeville.

“We’ve got to make sure that they’re going to abide by the regulations that are in Theta Chi and we want to make sure that these guys want to make sure to do good things. Follow community service, make good grades and present a good face for the university. And these guys did that,” Fischer said.

In most cases, Greek organizations petition to be on a certain campus. Once the organization is approved, alumni and representatives from the national headquarters can recruit members on campus.

However, since a group of students at GCSU took the initial steps for Theta Chi to come to campus, representatives from the fraternity are not allowed to recruit.

The transition from interest group to colony

Theta Chi fast facts

- 4** Members required to become a colony
- 25** Chapters currently in Georgia
- 45** Members required to become a chapter
- 154** Years since Theta Chi’s founding
- 206** Approximate number of U.S. chapters
- 160,000+** Number of initiated members

Source: www.thetachi.org

GRAPHIC BY KATELYN HEBERT

usually takes between a semester and nine months. It also takes the same amount of time to transition from colony to chapter. The exact length of the process is ultimately determined by the group’s motivation.

“I’m pretty confident that we could become colonized by the end of this semester or right at the beginning of fall semester,” Longoria said.

To reach colony status, the group must have at least 25 men, do community service and be recognized as a positive influence on campus. The interest group currently has about 20 men.

Once the group has 45 men, it can send in paperwork and fees to the fraternity’s headquarters, and petition to achieve chapter status. Once the group becomes a chapter, which will most likely happen by spring of 2011, it can then participate in rush.

Longoria is not only seeking to expand the number of fraternities at GCSU, but also the types of people involved with them, he said.

“We wanted to make this for people that weren’t even thinking about Greek life in the first place,” Longoria said. “We want to add a fresh option that they can go to.”

Amnesty

Continued from page 1...

“Student Amnesty Policy” over “Good Samaritan Policy.” Other issues about maintaining consistency within the policy with previously passed policies were addressed. After deliberations, the committee voted unanimously to place the policy on the docket for the March 29 meeting.

Under the policy, it’s advantageous to seek help rather than trying to hide the fact.

“This policy applies only to those students or organizations who seek emergency medical assistance in connection with an alcohol or drug-related medical emergency and does not apply to individuals experiencing an alcohol or drug-related medical emergency who are found by university employees. (i.e. University Police, faculty, administrative staff, residence hall

To read the Amnesty Policy visit

http://info.gcsu.edu/intranet/univ_senate/

GRAPHIC BY KATELYN HEBERT

staff),” according to the policy.

This policy prevents students from getting in trouble by the university when students need medical attention. Some examples include alcohol poisoning and sexual or physical assault. However, the policy does not grant amnesty for criminal, civil or legal transgressions for violations of federal, state or local law, according to the policy.

The policy addresses the notion that the policy could be abused. For students who repeatedly infringe upon the Code of Conduct, GCSU reserves the right to take action, according to the policy.

Note: Macon McGinley is the faculty advisor for The Colonnade.

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Female leaders headline symposium

BY COURTNEY MURRAH
STAFF REPORTER

The Women’s Leadership Symposium, sponsored by the GCSU Athletic Department and the Office of Equity and Diversity’s Women Resource Center, was held March 15 in the Magnolia Ballroom.

There were five guest speakers at the symposium along with keynote speaker Awista Ayub.

Ayub is the author of “However Tall the Mountain,” a memoir about eight girls from Afghanistan that she brought to America to better their soccer and leadership skills, that they were in turn able to take home with them to form the Afghan Youth Sports Exchange.

Ayub was able to use her past experiences for her topic on the “Role of Sports for Women in Afghanistan.”

Other speakers included Cecile Reynaud, Tiffany Daniels, Germaine McCauley, Joeleen Akin and Ada Bazin.

Reynaud, an associate pro-

fessor of sports management at Florida State University, gave a speech entitled “She Can Do Anything” about how there is a place for female coaches in women’s sports.

Daniels, the director of business development at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, discussed “Shattering the Glass Ceiling” in sports and all other industries.

McCauley, athletic director at Spellman College, gave a presentation entitled “Mentoring” on the importance of having and being a mentor.

Akin, athletic director at Agnes Scott College, talked about “Community Involvement & Enhancing Your Resume” and how volunteering in a wanted professional field can improve the chances of getting a job.

Bazin, an assistant volleyball coach and recruiting coordinator at Georgia State University, gave a more hands-on presentation on her topic of “Appreciating Diversity in an Ever-Changing World,” by letting the audience participate in a discussion of stereotypes.

reotypes.

The symposium was planned by Kara Teresi, a senior mass communication major and GCSU soccer player.

“Being an athlete, I’ve had so many opportunities to go to different seminars and conferences,” Teresi said. “My hope for this symposium was to use women that are in athletics that are amazing leaders and open that to any student, any person, no matter if you’re an athlete or not. And actually for those who aren’t athletes and haven’t been given opportunities to attend stuff like this, I wanted to open that door and have them go through those steps of leadership development looking at these women that have done amazing things in their personal careers.”

Among the female GCSU students to attend, junior double marketing and management major Roslyn Ellis went to the symposium in hopes of networking.

“I heard there were a lot of women from the sports industry going to be there,” Ellis said. “I



COURTNEY MURRAH / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Joeleen Akin, athletic director at Agnes Scott College, spoke about community involvement as a part of the Women’s Leadership Symposium on March 15.

wanted to make sure that I got there to get any advice that they had as far as developing myself as an undergraduate, prepare myself for the working pool,” Ellis said.

Also in attendance was Jessica Newman, a junior mass communication major.

“I was really touched by the

main speaker, Awista,” Newland said. “I’m on the soccer team and I do have a passion for soccer like she does. Her story inspired me that I could reach out and inspire others as well.”

Note: Kara Teresi is an advertising representative for The Colonnade.

University Senate online system set to be updated

BY MATT ROGERS
STAFF REPORTER

The University Senate is awaiting the implementation of 55 different motions, according to its motion database. Fortunately for GCSU, this information is invalid, as the University Senate’s method of keeping electronic records appears to be in limbo.

The administrators of the database have a current system that is apparently full of glitches and a brand new system that is about one week of work away from completion. However, another project from the University Systems of Georgia has taken priority.

According to officials, the loss of a former senator on the body has caused some issues regarding the database. Anne Gormley, former vice president and dean of faculties, was an active GCSU senator and had numerous policies under her name on the database, according to University Senate Secretary Craig Turner.

However, when she left GCSU for another career opportunity, Gormley’s name was erased from the database to keep the members current. This apparently unraveled many of the implemented policies on the database. According to Turner,

the majority of the policies now labeled as “approved for implementation” on the database, in reality, have actually already been implemented.

“I know that most of the (academic policies) have been implemented for the (academic years) of 2003-04, 2004-05, and 2005-06,” Turner said.

Instructional Technology Support Specialist Jay Lancaster created both the current database and the new one. The current system started out as a graduate project and, with additions to the system, it apparently became overwhelmed.

“Features kept getting added and added without the proper infrastructure,” Lancaster said.

Lancaster started working on the new system in July 2009 and it was scheduled to launch in January 2010. However, Lancaster was asked to work on a new project for the University Systems of Georgia, thus delaying the launch. Lancaster has been working on the University System’s project ever since — putting the University Senate database on hold even with it being so close to completion.

“(The new system) could be done in 40 hours,” Lancaster said. “The new system allows archiving of the administrators (preventing any deletion).”

Reform

Continued from page 1...

will be phased in over the next 10 years. Many of the bill’s effects won’t be seen for some time, other sections will have immediate impacts.

Some of the changes that will be seen in 2010 include more protection for individuals with insurance from insurance companies. The law prohibits companies from placing lifetime caps on coverage. Insurance companies also will not be allowed to deny children coverage due to pre-existing conditions.

The passing of the health care reform bill included a lot of heated discussions on both sides of the aisle. According to a Gallup poll released March 30, 44 percent of those surveyed believe health care coverage in the U.S. will get worse as a result of the new law. Forty-four percent of those contacted feel that the law will make health care coverage in the U.S. better. GCSU’s campus remains just as divided as elsewhere.

“I think (the health care bill) is a great idea because there’s a lot of good people, such as small business owners, that work hard but can’t afford health care for them or their employees,” said senior history major Suzy Deacon.

Other students, such as junior political science major Joe Fagan, are quick to point out the downsides of

the government changing the health care system.

“Nothing the government gets involved in runs efficiently, I mean look at the DMV,” Fagan said. “Higher taxes are going to be coming into play.”

Fagan doesn’t totally disagree with the entire bill.

“I do think someone who has pre-existing conditions shouldn’t be denied coverage, but that’s not done in 3,000 pages,” Fagan said.

Student loan reform

In addition to the passing of health care reform came the passing of a new student loan law. Currently students are able to get federal funds to help pay for school, but banks handle all the loans. Under the new system the government would handle everything, eliminating the middleman. GCSU was already preparing to switch to direct lender loans.

“We already had made the decision before the bill passed that we were going back (to direct lending) full force,” said Director of Financial Aid Cathy Crawley. “Every student (that needs a loan), no matter what, is going to be in direct lending in 2010-11.”

The federal student loan system is also being reformed following the passage of the health care bill. Federal loans will be given and collected by private companies that are under contract with the Department of Education. According to Obama, these changes will save taxpayers around \$68 billion over the next 10 years.

“The loan process will

be faster, they’ll still have to apply for aid though,” Crawley said.

Another change to the federal loan system is a cap on a student’s loan repayment for students that borrow after July 1, 2014. Graduates would be able to cap their loan repayments at 10 percent of their income. If graduates pay regularly over time their debt balance will be forgiven after 20 years.

According to U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, those in the public service field, such as teachers, nurses and military personnel, would see any remaining debt forgiven after 10 years of work.

The newly passed bill also increases and ensures the Pell Grant program for low-income students. Pell Grants are given to low-income students to help them afford college. The amount given in the grant depends on the student’s family contribution, the cost of attending school and the student’s enrollment status.

“(The bill) ensures that there’s not a shortfall meaning that they’re going to work against a balanced budget,” Crawley said. “They will make sure the money’s there to fund Pell every year.”

The Pell Grant increases begin rolling out in 2013. Over \$40 billion will be invested into the program to increase the number of grants awarded to students. By the 2020-21 academic year more than 820,000 additional grants will be distributed.

Volunteers

Continued from page 2...

fice all fun. The students spent time on the beach, toured downtown Savannah and went on a historic ghost tour of the town.

Junior business major and Service by the Sea participant Emily Beatty went on the trip with the intention of doing community service and finding an alternative to the typical spring break scene. She understood that her time in Savannah would be spent having fun while also contributing to a new environment.

“I really enjoyed working at the food pantry. As a business major, it was interesting to see how a nonprofit really works,” Beatty said.

“Working at the adult daycare was also extremely rewarding because I

already volunteer at the Green Acres Nursery.”

The trip cost \$125 per person, but The GIVE Center sponsored each participant, giving them \$25. The GIVE Center also sponsored other student-led volunteer trips over spring break. Twenty-five dollars was also given to each of the members of trips through Campus Catholics, Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry, Young Life and Baptist Collegiate Ministries.

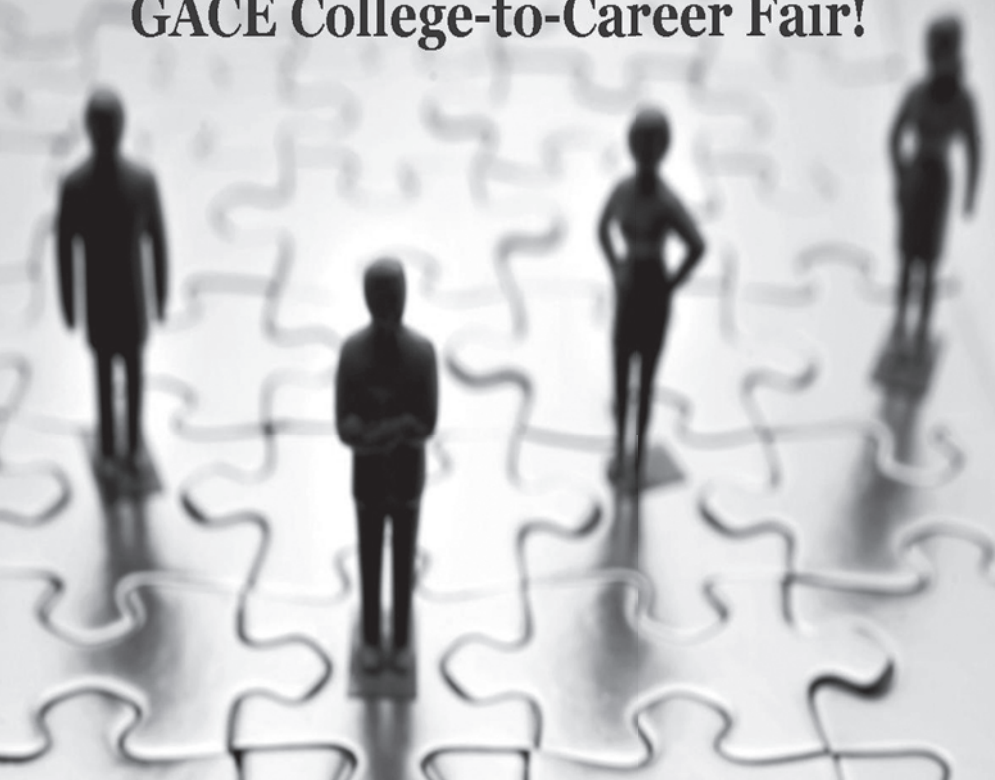
“I was very impressed with the passion and leadership these students had,” said Kendall Stiles, director of The GIVE Center, who has high hopes for the new program. “Our goal is to double in size next year.”


The trip provided inspiration for the students to bring their experiences home with them.

“Through this trip, our girls and guys realized we could also meet needs in our own community,” Dennis said.

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PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE

According to a Public Safety report, March 26 at approximately 3:36 p.m., while helping a neighbor work at his home, officer Wesley Ransom heard a woman screaming for help. It appeared that a man and woman were in an altercation and the male was overpowering her and carrying her toward the house. Ransom and his neighbor ran to the aid of the female, who was pinned down to the stairs by the male and had marks on her head and wrists. The subjects were separated and the Baldwin County Sheriff's Office was called regarding the situation.

DRIVING DRUNK

According to a Public Safety report, March 31 at approximately 1:34 a.m. officer Wesley Ransom observed a vehicle accelerate rapidly from a parking space on Hancock Street and follow a taxi too closely. A traffic stop was conducted and contact made with the driver. It was determined that the subject was under the influence of alcohol and when given a breathalyzer test, she registered .204. She was arrested and transported to the Milledgeville Police Department and charged with DUI and following too closely.

DITCHED THE CAR

According to a Public Safety report, March 17 at approximately 1:51 a.m. Sgt. Michael Baker heard a call on the Milledgeville Police Department frequency about a possible drunk driver. Baker spotted a vehicle matching the description and attempted to initiate a traffic stop. The vehicle then crashed into a ditch. Contact was made with the driver, who had a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from her, watery and bloodshot eyes and slurred speech. When given a breathalyzer test, she registered .242. She was arrested and transported to the Milledgeville Police Department and charged with DUI.

HIT THE BRAKES

According to a Public Safety report, March 20 at approximately 2:19 a.m. officer Gary Purvis observed a vehicle run a red light at Montgomery and Jefferson streets. A traffic stop was conducted and contact made with the driver. She had the odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from her, had slurred speech and was unsteady on her feet. When given a breathalyzer test, she registered .144. She was arrested and transported to the Milledgeville Police Department, and charged with DUI and obedience to a traffic control device.

LOW BLOOD SUGAR

According to a Public Safety report, March 20 at approximately 5:46 p.m. officer Wesley Ransom heard on the Milledgeville Police Department frequency a call in reference to an erratic driver on Greene Street and responded. Contact was made with the male driver, who was disoriented and did not know where he was. It was determined that he was a diabetic. Orange juice was given to him and once his blood sugar level was raised, he was able to perform a test and determine that his sugar was still low. EMS responded and the driver's brother was notified. EMS cleared the driver and he was released to his brother's care.

DOORBUSTER

According to a Public Safety report, March 18 at approximately 4:01 p.m. a student reported that the door to his apartment at Parkhurst Hall had been kicked in, causing damage to the door and casing. A female reported that she heard a loud boom at 3:25 p.m. and observed a group of males laughing and running from the area. The Physical Plant was called to repair the door. The case has been turned over to investigations.

BAG OF BLOW

According to a Public Safety report, March 24 at approximately 6:49 p.m. officer Gary Purvis and Sgt. Michael Baker entered a patrol vehicle and found a baggie laying on the rear passenger seat floorboard which contained a white powdery substance. The substance was tested and came back positive for cocaine. The case has been turned over to investigations.



OVER THE LIMIT, UNDER ARREST

According to a Public Safety report, March 21 at approximately 2:19 a.m. officer Wesley Ransom observed a vehicle fail to reduce speed and give appropriate space to his patrol vehicle while on a stop. A traffic stop was conducted and contact made with the driver. It was determined that he was under the influence of alcohol and when given a breathalyzer test, he registered .166. A background check found that the vehicle had no insurance. The male was arrested and transported to the Milledgeville Police Department and charged with DUI and issued a warning for move over law.

BLAZED IN THE BATHROOM

According to a Public Safety report, March 29 at approximately 10:04 a.m. officer Jamaal Hicks was dispatched to Foundation Hall in reference to a bong found in a shared restroom. Hicks made contact with a male and a female, who took an excessively long time opening their residence door. Both subjects were informed of the contraband found in the restroom and were given the opportunity to turn over any other contraband that they had. Both admitted to smoking marijuana in the room earlier and turned over 4 bongs, 2 storage devices, a bud of marijuana and several alcoholic beverages. The case has been turned over to the Student Judicial Board.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Friday, April 2 - Thursday, April 8

Friday, April 2

6 p.m. Baseball vs. G Southwestern - West Campus

Saturday, April 3

12 p.m. Softball vs. Flagler - West Campus
1 p.m. Baseball doubleheader vs. Ga. Southwestern - West Campus
2 p.m. Tennis vs. Columbus State - Centennial Center

Monday, April 5

5:30 p.m. GCSU Cheer Exhibition - Centennial Center

Tuesday, April 6

7:30 p.m. TubaCor: Deanna Swoboda, Tuba and Lin Foulk, French Horn - Max Noah Recital Hall

Wednesday, April 7

12:30 p.m. Times Talk - Beeson Hall lower level

Thursday, April 8

8 p.m. 3rd Annual GCSU Battle of the Bands - Magnolia Ballroom
8 p.m. 2nd Annual Armed Farces Comedy Variety Show- A&S Auditorium

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Our Voice

The opinion of The Colonnade staff

Legalize pot to compensate for cuts

The Colonnade staff is all for state government doing anything it can to boost the economy — with-in reason — and it seems California may soon have a new model Georgia could follow. It's moving toward becoming more financially savvy and green at the same time. It'd be an even better example if it would alleviate some current budget constraints.

This November, California may become the first state to legalize the recreational use of marijuana. Currently, California residents are allowed to use pot for medicinal purposes, but it is still considered illegal under federal law. If passed, the new law would allow 21-year-old residents of California to posses up to one ounce of marijuana as well as have the right to grow the plant in individual gardens that measure up to 25-square feet. If the new law is approved, California could reduce public safety costs and possibly save \$200 million a year, while simultaneously allowing local governments to produce tax revenue.

California is not the only state in pursuit of changing current laws about the use of marijuana to improve the current economical downfall. A proposal by Washington state to legalize the sale and use of pot recently was defeated in the state legislature. However, Washington lawmakers have expanded the number of medical professionals who are permitted to prescribe marijuana intended for medicinal purposes.

Recent state budget cuts are a serious issue for Georgia's public colleges and universities. A recent budget plan released by GCSU President Dorothy Leland could cut \$5,356,378 from the school's budget. Such a loss could also result in faculty positions being reduced and multiple degree options being eliminated.

Georgia should do what other states are doing and start considering the different possibilities to help the struggling economy, such as legalizing the recreational use of marijuana. If a law that made marijuana legal was passed in Georgia, it would grant local governments the ability to permit and tax the drug. If the funds were allowed to be used for educational institutions, tax revenue could help remove the risk of GCSU and other schools losing faculty members and help eliminate the threat of students not being offered certain degrees. When it comes to the ethics of marijuana being legalized versus students having more degree options from a better-equipped faculty, education comes out on top.

Please send responses to ColonnadeLetters@gcsu.edu.



Twitter lends a voice to all, sadly

By the time this article comes out, the fervor and uproar over the passage of health care reform may be over but there are a few things that need to be addressed about the entire ordeal because this type of situation is bound to arise again.

After the bill was signed into law, everyone on Facebook, Twitter and other social media outlets had something to say about it, which is fine because everyone is entitled to his or her own opinion. But the problem we have today is that social media gives everyone a voice whether they are ignorant or intelligent, so real substantive conversation becomes blurred. When I saw others of different viewpoints ranting or raving about the health care reform law, I debated about arguing my stance. But one thing that crossed my mind was that a majority of people who were so outspoken about the bill most likely hadn't even read the bill. There wouldn't have been any point in arguing with people who have been misinformed and we are



IAN BRIDGEFORTH

uneducated about the issue.

These days everyone can turn to their specific cable network that shares the same views as them and hear exactly what they want to hear, which most of the time can be distorted facts. To those on the right, no, the president isn't some socialist, Marxist, terrorist with some evil plot to corrupt America. And to many on the left, no, every single Republican isn't some radical, racist, fear-mongering bigot.

For those who actually knew what they were talking about in regards to the law, I also saw some unnecessary comments. Many of the people involved in some substantive conversations on these social media outlets had become emotional and unfortunate words

were said. There were personal attacks on certain individuals' religion, race and anything else imaginable.

It is perfectly fine to be passionate about your views but when it gets to the point of incivility and personal attacks, there has to be a line drawn. Calling each other names and demeaning others' beliefs is not only unnecessary but it does nothing to contribute to the debate and discussion. I've brought this issue up because this is not the last of these types of uproars. The passage of health care reform has given this administration the momentum to push more of its agenda through. Hot topics like financial regulatory reform, education reform and immigration reform seem to be their next targets, so when these issues come up, please let's all try to be a little more correctly informed and civil with our discussion. No one benefits from personal and out-of-line attacks just to get their point across.

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The Colonnade wants to correct mistakes appearing in the newspaper. If you believe we have made a mistake, please call us at (478) 445-4511 or e-mail us at colonnade@gcsu.edu.

Satire: How I became the second grade God

Over spring break I contemplated going to Panama City Beach, Fla., Mexico or some other picturesque beach to party and get a tattoo to permanently remind me of my loose morals, but instead I decided to go home and eat lunch with my 8-year-old cousin, Mary and her second-grade class. Why sacrifice fun times with college friends to eat with second graders? It's simple; I've always wanted to be the coolest kid in school and this was my chance.

The first step in my plan to become the most popular kid in the second grade involved dressing the part. I decided on a wild 80's plaid shirt to attract their short attention span, but I couldn't figure out what to do with my hair. Then, it hit me — a mohawk. I spiked my hair up, and to my dismay, two of Mary's classmates were already sporting the faux-hawk. However, my stubble made me superior and my journey began.

Step two involved sliding my way into the pre-set status quo with witty small talk and work my way up to reason why they should worship me. However, a girl with an angelic face and overly nosey person-



STEVE HOLBERT

ality asked Mary if I was her father. Would Mary's father have a faux-hawk, chocolate milk and small talk about Power Rangers, Pokemon and Percy Jackson? I think not. Once the children discovered I was not Mary's father, my popularity began to grow exponentially and the thought of Mary roaming the streets with older men also raised interest in her — for good reason.

Next, I amazed them with my mysterious gold dollars and I was surely on my way to second grade class president when the unexpected happened.

"You see that boy down there? He picks on Mary all the time because of her glasses," some toothless girl in bad need of speech therapy yelled from across the table.

I asked Mary if this was the

truth and she quickly returned to her sandwich. I looked around the class and realized my fair cousin was the only child with glasses, and I laughed knowing by graduation, over half the table would be secretly hiding contacts because of looking at the sun, softball accidents, crack, etc...

"Young man, why are you picking on my little cousin?"

The bully did not answer, but the toothless wonder spoke again, "His daddy just died."

I thought back to my second grade days when the counselor would come to our class and talk to us about bullying. She would preach, "Fists don't stop arguments; talking stops arguments." However, we all know talking started the altercation in the first place.

"I'm sorry about your dad and if you ever wanna talk to somebody, the guidance counselor's door is always open. So don't take it out on my cousin you little punk."

There was cheering and celebrating. I had defeated the second grade bully and become their king. Best spring break ever.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Colonnade encourages readers to express their views and opinions by sending letters to the editor at: CBX 2442; Milledgeville, GA 31061 or by e-mail at colonnadeletters@gcsu.edu.

All letters must be typed and include:

- names
- address/ e-mail address
- telephone number

- year of study
- major

Only your name, year of study and major will be printed.

- Unsigned letters will not be printed. Names will be withheld only under very unusual circumstances.
- Letters longer than 300 words may be condensed.

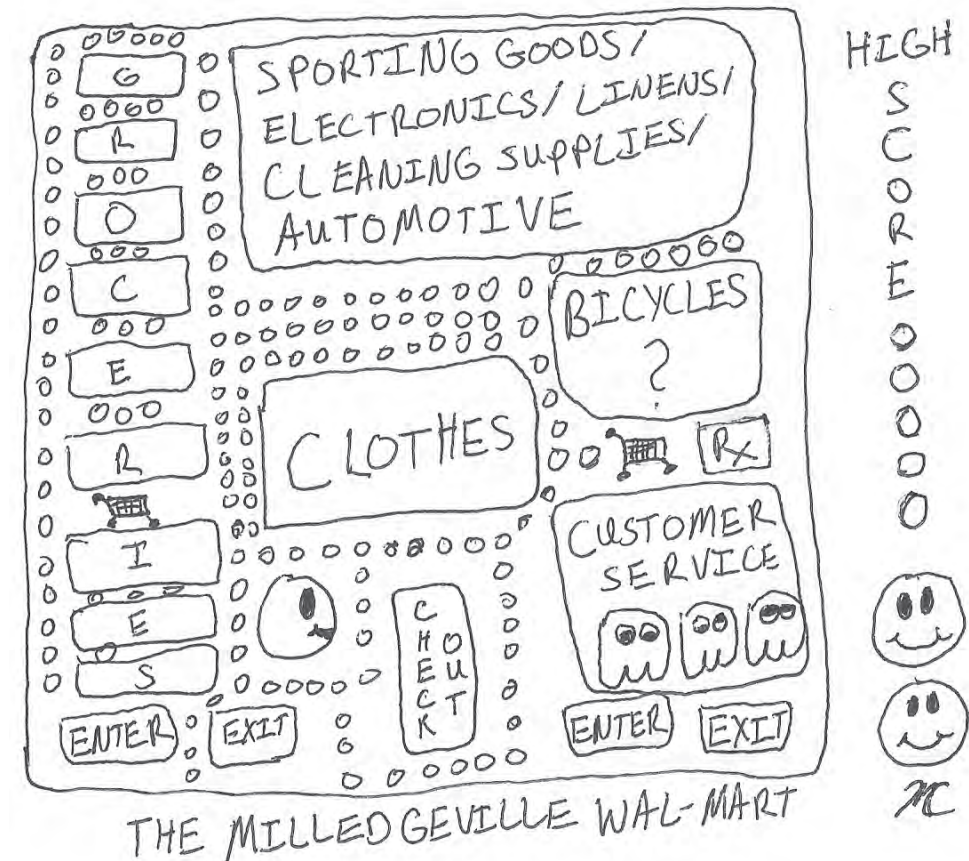
- All letters will be edited for grammar, spelling and punctuation errors.
- All letters become the property of The Colonnade and cannot be returned.
- We are not able to acknowledge their receipt or disposition. Letters will be printed at the discretion of the editor-in-chief.

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THE
HAMMER
TIMES

BY MICHAEL CHRISTOPHER



Independent
Satire

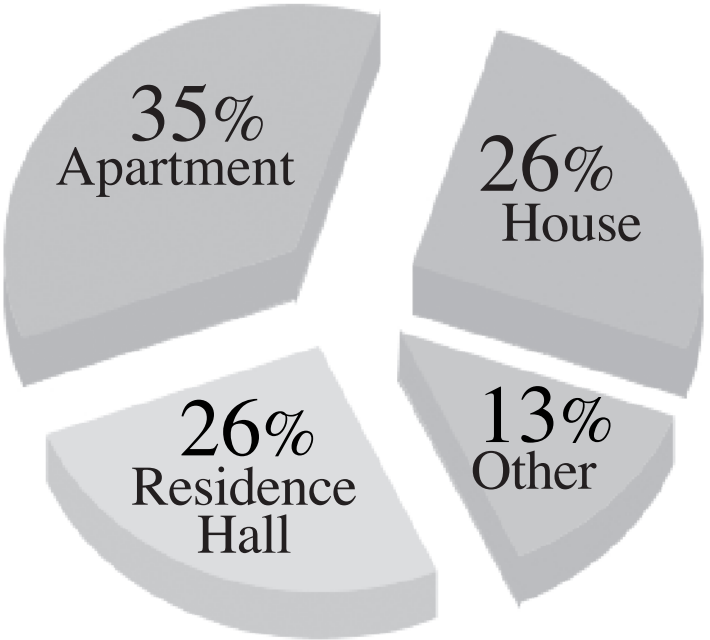
by Ian Bridgeforth



POLL OF THE WEEK

GRAPHIC BY CLAIRE DYKES

What kind of housing are you living in next year?



Next edition’s question:
Do you have a student loan?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe, in the future
- Other, send to colonnadeletters@gcsu.edu

Vote online at GCSUnade.com
Got more to say? Let us know with a letter to the editor! Send them to Colonnadeletters@gcsu.edu.

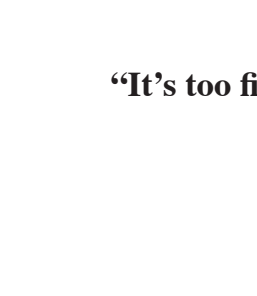


Bobcat Beat

“How do you feel about the health care reform legislation recently passed?”



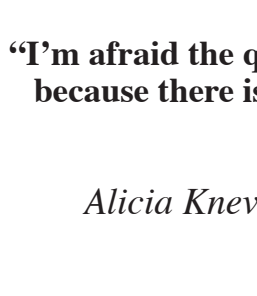
“I don’t want to be paying for other people’s insurance.”
Ashlyn Holly, senior, business management major



“It’s too financially costly and it reduces our options.”
Lee Irminger, freshman, business management major



“There’s going to be a free rider problem, and people won’t take proper preventative care.”
Paul Danaj, junior, economics major




“I’m afraid the quality of doctors will go down because there is less of an incentive to go into the medical field.”
Alicia Knevel, sophomore, biology major



“I don’t really mind it, it really might help some people, or mess up the economy. This is similar to people’s responses to the introduction of social security under FDR.”
Alexandria Bell, freshman, political science major
Reported by Bobby Gentry

The Litter Box

Instant Message with "ColonnadeVent"

 **ColonnadeVent**
Last message received at: 6:33:10 PM

Dear GCSU, if you don’t want me to cheat the registration system then why are you? It’s currently 2:37 a.m. Monday and several people already have seats in upper-level classes. Yes, because that is completely fine in this fair system we have established.

Isn’t it fair to assume that when you go out of your way to help a friend through a crisis, that friend would do the same in return?

Dear freshmen and other morons on campus. We can clearly understand your excitement over registration, however, those of us working on our senior thesis are in the library at the wee hours of the morning when you are having soft dreams of candy and porn, please shut your loud mouths so that those of us who have put in the time for our degree can achieve it. Also, being that your “stressful” little life seems to give you ample time to also disrupt us during the evening in the library as you look at Facebook and MySpace, go run in traffic with other members of your IQ and maturity level. Thank you. Adieu!

How many effing things do you guys have to throw across Front Campus? I swear, I better not get hit by a Frisbee a football or whatever other effing thing you want to throw across campus. And stop spitting all the time. Geez! Walk three feet and spit. Go two more feet and spit again. Stop it already! It’s nasty.

Only I would take a nap and then dream about changing light bulbs.




Cowabunga dude!

God, I love being a turtle!

We want fried pound cake Aubri Lanes for lunch!

Lucida G... 12 [B] [I] [U] [A] [A] [Link] [Add] [Get Info]

Want to vent about something? Send us a message about what’s bothering you to screen name ColonnadeVent using AOL Instant Messenger (AIM), e-mail colonnadeletters@gcsu.edu, with the subject “Vent,” or visit [Twitter/VentGCSU](https://twitter.com/VentGCSU).

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‘Vagina is not a dirty word’

‘The Vagina Monologues’ raises awareness to women’s issues



MANDY ELLIS / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

From left, Liana Eden and Fiona Sheehan perform in “A Six-Year-Old Was Asked.” Women of all ages were interviewed as the basis of the monologues.



MANDY ELLIS / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Above, Heather Maddox performs in “My Vagina Was My Village.” Maddox also starred in the monologue “Wear and Say,” which asked women what their vaginas would wear.

Left, Tiffany Payton unleashes emotion while performing “My Angry Vagina.” This year’s production was the fifth year that the show has been performed at GCSU.

BY CLAIRE KERSEY
SENIOR REPORTER

“The Little Coochi Snorcher That Could,” “Hair” and “Wear and Say” are just a few of the monologues that were part of the fifth annual production of the Vagina Monologues presented March 30-April 1 in Max Noah Recital Hall. The performances were sponsored by the Women’s Resource Center and some proceeds from the show are going toward funding a crisis hotline for victims of gender-based violence. The performers sported black clothing with red accessories and each woman incorporated a red flower into her outfit.

While the show is traditionally held around Valentine’s Day, scheduling conflicts forced the show to be postponed. However, this year’s production coincided with the fifth anniversary of the

Women’s Resource Center.

“We had a lot of interest. We wanted everyone to be able to do it,” senior English major and producer Andrea Judy said.

The monologues consist of many pieces that are consistent from year to year, but each year there is a spotlight monologue that addresses an issue relevant to the time. This year’s spotlight is on sex slavery in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the monologue details how one woman survived.

“It’s a really powerful piece, but it’s very uplifting,” Judy said.

The moods of the monologues ranged from funny to serious, but all addressed issues of women’s lives today.

“It’s raising awareness to the issues women face every day,” director Suzy Deacon said.

With so many different perspectives portrayed, from a six-year-old girl to an

old woman, many women can relate to the pieces. Each performer had her own favorite monologue.

“I personally love ‘My Angry Vagina,’” Deacon said. “‘C---’ is a fun one as well.”

Senior Jessica Baker performed the monologue “Because He Liked to Look At It.” It was her second time participating in a performance of the Vagina Monologues.

“The thing I like most is that she comes to love her vagina and her partner,” Baker said. “I like the general sense that we are helping to fight violence against women.”

The Women’s Resource Center has been heavily involved in keeping the show an annual tradition. The Women’s Resource Center coordinator Jennifer Graham has trouble choosing a favorite monologue.

“I like them all. They all tell a story,” Graham said. “When things like this come from the heart, how can you pick a favorite?”

While there are no men in the show, producer Meghan Fleming emphasized the importance of getting men to relate to the monologues.

“I’ve known a lot of guys who have joined our cause,” Fleming said.

The monologues work to address some of the topics that are seen as taboo.

“Vagina is not a dirty word,” Graham said. “If we all work together, we can eliminate (violence against women.)”

One thing that the actresses and others involved want people to take away is that they have a place to turn if something happens to them.

“This play shows women and men that they’re not alone. These women survived and so can you,” Fleming said.



BOBBY GENTRY / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
A group dances at the Heritage Ball sponsored by the by Black Student Alliance, which was held March 18. The ball has been a tradition for over 25 years at GCSU.

Heritage Ball celebrates BSA achievements

BY JOANNA SULLIVAN
STAFF WRITER

Diversity, energy, and excitement are all words that can be used to describe the Black Student Alliance and its annual Heritage Ball, which took place March 18. The event was held in Magnolia Ballroom and was filled with variety, from the Parisian, Je T’aime prom theme and the eclectic mix of music to the Chinese food served.

Tameka Dean, a senior biology pre-med major, is BSA coordinator through the Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity as well as vice president.

“This is our first year doing a prom theme, but it is typically called the Legacy Banquet or the Heritage Ball, which is basically just something for students to go to so they can dress up and have fun,” Dean said.

The annual Heritage Ball has been in existence for over 25 years at GCSU and is a great opportunity for members and non-members alike to come together to enjoy a night of fun.

“People are excited about it. It’s one of our major events every year so it’s something to look forward to because it’s not the typical on-campus party,” Dean said.

Many components went into the production of the dance. The music was mixed by Nigel Sanyangore, a junior math major, food was provided by Sodexo, and the enthusiasm was brought by the students.

“With dances like these on campus, I feel that it actually brings people together,” Sanyangore said.

The Black Student Alliance has made a

point to try and connect GCSU students who are new or want to get more involved with events on campus.

Karissa Reed, a sophomore Spanish major, recently transferred to GCSU from Augusta State University and said she has felt welcomed by the BSA.

“I didn’t know too many people here, I knew some, but not a whole lot, so it was pretty welcoming to have people to talk to,” Reed said.

Chevene Simmons, a second-year graduate student, has been involved with the BSA for the past two years and appreciates the fervor the group has.

“I work in the Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity and I am with the minority mentoring program, but BSA is in the same office,” Simmons said. “I think over the last two years we have had a dedicated body of students that come here. We have the freshmen that are on fire and have actually stayed around, have joined some positive programmers. I just like the camaraderie.”

The BSA offers a wide range of activities throughout the school year, from a talent show in November to other community service opportunities.

“We did a carnival for the children at Boys & Girls Club, which we do every year,” Dean said. “We also went to the House of Mercy in Macon for people who are HIV positive who can’t afford treatment.”

After a full year of activities and volunteering, the Heritage Ball acts as an award for dedicated work. To cap off the night, Simmons along with Natolie Powell were crowned as prom king and queen.

Cutting hair, not budgets

A personal experience with Locks of Love



LISSA SPEER / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Before ...



LISSA SPEER / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

After!

BY CLAIRE KERSEY
SENIOR REPORTER

It’s been a while since my last haircut. This tends to happen, as I always put these things off. I won’t divulge exactly how long it’s been because it would make any hair professional cringe. (OK, I’m pretty sure it’s been at least a year. Don’t judge me.) So I went to get my hair cut through Locks of Love. When you have as much hair as I did, why not? Besides, haircuts inspire my worst bouts of indecision.

I was approached by at least five different people working with Gamma Sigma Sigma before going in who tried to persuade me to donate. It was great to see such enthusiasm for the cause. Despite having to reschedule the event from February to March, they still seemed excited about the turnout.

I sat down and got ready for the hair to fall. I was pretty stoked about finally losing my scraggly ends. Not to mention, I was being serenaded by the sounds of late ‘90s pop music. That was a little laughable. Oh, Britney Spears and the Backstreet Boys: a blast from the past to usher in the future.

“You’re gonna look spicy, you’re gonna look sexy,” my hairstylist Rachel said.

After cutting off a ponytail, as is typical with donating to Locks of Love, she proceeded to shape the rest of my hair into a bob.

It’s certainly the shortest I’ve ever had my hair. Having a haircut is like an instant makeover; you feel dramatically different. I feel older now, and ready to take on the world. Plus, the compliments have really poured in ever since I cut my hair.

After my haircut, they measured my hair. I figured I had dropped about 8 inches, but my ponytail was 11 inches long. Eleven inches that will go to a wig, and 11 inches I don’t have to wash, dry or brush. Success.

Art students travel to paint mural for peace

BY LAUREN DAVIDSON
STAFF WRITER

On Feb. 20 Valerie Aranda, a GCSU associate professor of art, and six of her art students traveled to Memphis, Tenn., to help paint a mural in the cafeteria of Lester Middle School.

Richard Lou, the art department chair at the University of Memphis, invited Aranda to come to Memphis to paint the mural. Six GCSU art major students, Jessica Peet, Tempestt Jackson, Anne Humphrys, Julia Allen, Gabby Caraballo and Karla Leggat, volunteered to take the trip with Aranda to help paint the mural.

Not only did Aranda have the help of her students but also high school students, participating in this year’s MidSouth Peace Jam conference, came out and helped with the mural. The six GCSU students prepared paint for the students and directed them to specific areas of the mural where they could paint or apply their handprints and fingerprints to the wall.

According to Peace Jam’s Web site, www.peacejam.org, the group is “a worldwide movement of young people and Nobel Peace Prize Winners working together for social justice and peace.” Each year high school students are invited to attend Peace Jam, which is held in different cities, for six days. At the conference a selected Nobel Peace Prize winner comes and speaks to the students.

“(Peace Jam is) the organization that identifies a project for the high school students, the Peace Jammers as they call them,”

Aranda said. The group identified Lester Middle School as a place for a project because the school was the unfortunate site of a mass murder atrocity in 2008 and has also had to endure other hardships.

“It’s also (in) a neighborhood that is economically challenged. I think they chose this area and Lester Middle School as a target through the arts and this mural, and through the help of the high school students, the college students and myself, to bring people together.”

The mural features por-

traits of the students at the middle school, an image of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., musical instruments, the school’s mascot and a portrait of this year’s Peace Jam Nobel Peace Prize winner, Shirin Edadi.

Karla Leggat, a junior art major, said the mural illustrates the school as a whole.

“The mural consisted of several elements characteristic of the learning environment portrayed by its location,” Leggat said. “The keyboard, trumpet and violin represent the school’s strong foundation

in the fine arts along with the large central color spectrum seen behind the head of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Several actual students are represented in the mural as they might be seen on campus, hanging out with friends, or working together on group work.”

The school has been making improvements such as painting the school and putting in new windows. Aranda believes that this mural not only is an additional improvement to the school but it is also something that lifts the spirits of the school as a whole and the community around it.

“I see it as a gift to the community and that it’s a vision that is shared. I think the imagery is hopeful, it’s positive and it’s even a reflection of themselves. It’s a painting for the people, it’s a painting for the community and again is a way to boost the moral and to bring improvements to the school,” Aranda said.

Jessica Peet, a junior art major, said she enjoyed her experience working on the mural and believes the project was not only positive for the school and its surrounding community, but also for those who took part in creating it as well.

“The impact we had on the community and that school was so great,” Peet said. “I have always heard about how art impacts people’s lives but I have never been involved in a situation where I have seen that actually come true. That mural and just the whole experience of being involved with everyone there showed me how important art and that mural was to help lift up the spirits of the people there.”

“I see it as a gift to the community and that it’s a vision that’s shared.”

—Valerie Aranda

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The flash mob performs spontaneously at Springfest for a crowd at the Bobcat Marketplace on March 6. They have also performed in Sodexo on March 10.

TIM VACULA / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Boom boom wow

Flash mob descends upon campus

BY CLAIRE KERSEY
SENIOR REPORTER

YouTube. Home of the Rick Roll, keyboard cats and other viral sensations. Some GCSU students brought one such sensation to campus—the flash mob.

Sophomore Sam Johnson dreamt up the idea after watching some videos. “I went to YouTube and checked out this flash mob, so we decided to start one,” Johnson said.

Johnson recruited through his friends, using word-of-mouth and a secret Facebook group to garner interest. However, keeping the event a secret was something that had to be handled carefully.

“It wasn’t that hard to keep a secret,” Johnson said.

He did note that it was difficult to keep inviting more people while maintaining secrecy.

“The dancers weren’t supposed to talk about it,” freshman Ala Bishop said.

After pulling the group together, all the members had to learn the choreography. Most of the dancers did not have any formal training.

“Some dance majors came up with the dance,” said sophomore English

major Caitlyn Gower. “We’re just everyday people.”

The flash mob group recently performed in Sodexo during the lunch rush on March 10. A discreetly placed speaker near the window blasted the Black Eyed Peas song “Boom Boom Pow,” and a large group of dancers congregated to perform, to the surprise and approval of their fellow students. The dance lasted only a minute or so, with all the dancers scattering as quickly as they began, but its impact was noticeable.

“I thought it was neat to see all our friends perform,” sophomore mass communication major Kelsey Donaldson said.

While a few students had heard rumors that a flash mob might be performing, many were still surprised by the dancers.

“We didn’t know about it until just now,” sophomore Spanish major Erica Grimes said.

This was not their first performance. They previously descended upon the crowds at Springfest the weekend before. This performance is available to view on YouTube.

“We got a lot of cheering (at Springfest),” senior history major Vivian Sims said.

Concert band embraces challenges in spring concert

BY OLIVIA DOWD
STAFF WRITER

The spirited and dynamic sounds of the GCSU Concert Band reverberated throughout Russell Auditorium on March 18 when the group performed its annual spring concert.

GCSU students, faculty and fans alike came to enjoy the performance, which was one of the group’s most challenging to date, said Dr. Todd Shiver, interim chair of the Music Department and director of GCSU bands.

“There are lots of notes to learn, especially for the woodwinds,” Shiver said. “We have been practicing since the beginning of the

semester.”

Over 70 students performed during the concert, about half of which are majoring in music. Sophomore percussionist Ryan Brown, for example, is majoring in economics.

“Though I don’t want to teach it, I still love making music, which is why I joined concert band,” Brown said. “It’s just a good emotional representation of how people feel, and everyone interprets it differently. Music is different between everyone.”

Master of Ceremonies David Muschell provided background information on the composers in a humorous but awe-inspiring tone, which seemed to endear

the audience to their pieces. Junior biology major Lauren Marone enjoyed the concert from the balcony and said she especially “liked how they gave out unusual information on the composer. It was rather neat.”

Of the six compositions that the concert band performed, the first four originated from the Australian-born composer Percy Grainger. The flavor of British folk music was infused throughout his work. The band kicked off the concert with a fun, fluttering and lively piece titled “Shepherd’s Hey.”

Other Grainger compositions performed by the band had a similar atmosphere, as the flutes and

trumpets created an upbeat melody with the other woodwinds. The pieces were then made more commanding by the percussion.

GCSU professor Maureen Horgan took the stage with her trombone during the fifth piece, Nikolia Rimsky-Korsakov’s “Concerto for Trombone and Military Band.” It was a change of pace that fluctuated smoothly between sleepy, excited, and empowering, and served as a transition from Grainger’s compositions to the drastically different finale.

The concert ended in a stunning grand finale composed by student conductor John Hennecken, a senior who has been play-

ing with the GCSU Concert Band for four years and is currently its lead trumpet player. Entitled “Call of Fate,” the concluding piece had a tone that teetered between powerful and thundering, and soft melancholy. According to Hennecken, it was inspired by romantic composers that he cites as influences, such as Beethoven and Wagner.

“I really like that kind of intense symphonic music,” Hennecken said.

The concert band’s next performance will be held in front of the Governor’s Mansion in downtown Milledgeville on April 24. It will consist of patriotic music and marches.

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‘Clash of the Titans’ remake reanimates Greek myths

BY CHRIS MOSKALY
REVIEWER

“Clash of the Titans” is the movie reciprocal of a theme park ride into Greek mythology. Whether it be the perfect casting of the gods, a swarm of giant scorpions and demonic creatures, or the stunning revelation of a monstrous beast known as the “kraken,” director Louis Leterrier embraces every ounce of creativity that made the original film so astonishing. The result is simply a colossal piece of popcorn entertainment that is bound for box-office glory as we move one step closer to the summer blockbuster period.

In the tradition of “300,” the structure of “Titans” is pretty much a one-sentence idea. The characters are inspired by (but not entirely based on) some form of historical literature, the story is a direct exercise in the protocol of a fantasy epic, and of course the special effects; lots and lots of SPFX. In 1981, it was done with stop-motion, and now almost three decades later, it’s time for CGI to take a shot. And with 3-D features added into the equation, Leterrier successfully avoids letting this one slip away as a disposable revamp of the current technology.

Opening just at the height of its conflict, the narrative is, like I said, pretty straightforward. The leader of the Gods, Zeus (Liam Neeson) and his family have been kidnapped by Hades (Ralph Fiennes), god of the underworld who is trying to seize all the power from Zeus. Their only hope is Perseus (Sam Worthington), a rebellious soul who was born a god, but raised as a mortal.

Okay so let’s be honest, we already know without asking that when first confronted, Perseus will want nothing to do with the dispute. We also know that at some point or another, he’ll realize he has nothing left

to lose and must accept his responsibility to the gods. And I guess it goes without saying that amidst the family connection, there also has to be a love interest for the young hero to save as the lead antagonist prepares to unleash hell on earth.

But never mind. The trailers have already told us that this is not a movie about building characters, and since the core of the original was a matter of style, it would be unreasonable to assume that the new one is any different; especially when you take into account the fact that modern viewers often bring with them a strong hunger for SPFX as they walk into the theater.

Like any other film that breathes its own style, “Clash of the Titans” obviously can’t provide its actors with much elbow room for a good performance, but in the film’s defense, this is probably one of the most perfectly placed casts we’ve ever had in an epic scenario. Rising star Worthington still has plenty to offer in the role of the courageous underdog, and Fiennes’ interpretation of Hades is essentially Lord Voldemort on mythological steroids. And casting Neeson as Zeus I think speaks entirely for itself on so many levels.

As we saw in “The Incredible Hulk,” Leterrier is one director who enjoys the excitement of a good “smash!,” but he also knows how to balance his own preferences with those of tradition, and this is where “Titans” succeeds at its best. What gives the film a special niche is the way in which the director has constructed it to fit modern standards, while at the same time paying homage to Desmond Davis (director of the original) in a number of ways. It’s often perceived to be a challenging assignment with any remake, but Leterrier clearly knows where to draw the line between “bettering” and “respecting.” “Clash of the Titans” is not a trial of technology; it’s a triumph of elegance!



GRADE: A-

Spotlight

By: Stephanie Sorensen



SLACKLINING BETWEEN THE TREES

Life a couple feet above the ground doesn't seem to faze freshman Ben Pattison and junior Parker Kempf. Many students have seen the line drawn between trees on Front Campus on warm days and wonder exactly what it is.

Slacklining is a balance sport that requires two anchor points. The sport originates from rock climbers that found a new hobby while they waited for routes.

Pattison and Kempf learned to slackline from previous students, learning the skill and passing it on to the next generation.

The sport requires a sense of balance, nylon webbing and two anchors.



STEPHANIE SORENSEN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

From left, Ben Pattison and Parker Kempf toss a flying disc while balancing on a slackline. Slacklining has become a popular activity at GCSU since the dawn of warm weather.

“Slacklining is a fun hobby and a great way to get to know people on campus. It's a great way to get to know people and pass down the skill. — Ben Pattison

Arts and Letters play lives up to GCSU's taste

BY DANIELLE PALUGA
STAFF WRITER

A politically charged play was performed in the Arts and Letters festival March 12. “A Question of Taste” was written by Dr. Andrew Ade, a professor of English at Westminster College in Pennsylvania.

The play is, in Ade's own words, a “fable about the political chaos in many underdeveloped countries.”

It is a one-act play that does not take place in Africa, but echoes the political atmosphere there. The main characters are freedom fighters from different generations and it is about their conflicts regarding political oppression.

The play was inspired by Ade's job as a teacher in Zaire many years ago, he said.

“I lived and worked as a high school teacher in the interior of Zaire during the heyday of the notorious kleptocrat Mubutu Sese Seko, who exploited the nation,” Ade said.

Ade's play was the prizewinner in GCSU's National Journal of Contemporary Culture's contest. He said he was excited to see how the GCSU theater department portrayed it.

Since the play was short, the cast and crew were small but close-knit. Freshman theater major Sarah Prochaska was the sound designer for the play.

According to Prochaska, working on the play was a learning experience.

“Most of the sounds ended up becoming a distraction for the show, such as the vault door opening a million times during “A Question of Taste,” Prochaska said.

Both Prochaska and the costume designer Caila Blanton had just two weeks to pull the production off.

“We had an incredibly fast rehearsal process, so everything had to come together rather fast,” Prochaska said.

Professor David Muschell coordinated the contest by choosing the judge. He said he thought the product turned out very well.

“We had non-theater majors playing the three main parts — two pre-meds and one sociology major,” Muschell said.

The Arts and Letters Contest is held every year and submissions from all types of creative writing are accepted. Writers from all over the world compete and the judges are professionals in the creative writing field. Ade won \$1,000 for being chosen and he was flown out to see the play.

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Golf takes second at Bearcat

No. 3 Bobcats earn runner-up to host Lander in tough field

BY SAM HUNT
STAFF REPORTER



Junior Billy Shida hits an iron shot during the Bearcat Golf Classic this past Monday. Shida tied with senior teammate Niclas Johansson for 10th place in the tournament.

The No. 3 GCSU golf team finished second out of 16 teams in the Bearcat Golf Classic at Lander University on Mar. 29-30.

The three-round match took place at the par-72, 6,800 yard Greenwood Country Club Course. The Bobcats earned a score of 840 for their three-round total, tying with Armstrong Atlantic for second place. However, the tiebreaker was determined by each school's best individual round of play. Senior Francisco Bide finished the first round with a 66 and junior Billy Shida finished with a 66 in the second round, while Armstrong Atlantic's best individual score was 68, giving GCSU the spot of second in the tournament. The Bobcats final score of 840 was just seven strokes behind the winner, host Lander University, which finished with an 833.

"We played solid and we had a couple of real good rounds, head coach Jimmy Wilson said. "We knew going in yesterday that we had to play really well to have a chance to win, we played good but not really well, therefore we finished second."

Finishing first for GCSU a second time in a row and coming in third overall for the tournament was Bide, who shot a 66 on Monday, a 70 for the second round and a 73 on the final round on Tuesday. His results tied him for third with three other players and earned him the All-Tournament Team honors.

Coming in the top 10 and tying for the 10th place spot were senior Niclas Johansson and Shida, who both finished with a final score of 211. Johansson, who completed every round at-par or lower, shot a 71 in Monday's opening round, a 68 in the second round, and closed out with a 72. Shida shot a 75 in the first round, then a 66 on Tuesday's first round, and finished the final round with a 70. The tie for the tenth place slot marks as the sixth time this year that Johansson has finished in the top 10 and the Shida's third time finishing in the top 10.

"We've had different guys step up every week to be our number one player, which is promising," Wilson said. "We're dealing with the expectations that come with a high ranking, I think we're getting better with dealing with that."

Shooting a total of 214 and finishing in the top 20 was junior Matthew Yontz, with a pair of 71s for the first two rounds and a 72 for the final round, earning him 18th place overall.



BY PRESTON SELLERS
SPORTS EDITOR

Has March ever had so much madness? We've been lucky to witness arguably the most unpredictable, exciting NCAA basketball tournament in history. With millions of "experts" tearing up their brackets across the country, strong middle-seeded teams have knocked off top-ranked teams left and right.

The most shocking upset came early, with No. 9 seed Northern Iowa knocking out No. 1 seed Kansas in the Midwest region. The Jayhawks were President Barack Obama's (and millions of other people's) choice to cut down the nets in Indianapolis. But a poor shooting night and the feisty Panthers combined to send them home much earlier than anyone expected.

Three double-digit seeds made the Sweet Sixteen (Washington, Cornell and St. Mary's) after disposing of powerful opponents. Two No. 5 seeds are in the Final Four (Michigan State and Butler) and will face each other, assuring that one No. 5 will play for the national championship.

Butler was probably the strongest mid-major all season. Its run to the Final Four was arguably the most difficult, having to knock off the top two seeds in its region in its past two games, No. 1 seed Syracuse and No. 2 seed Kansas State respectively. But here the Bulldogs are, with a legitimate shot to leave Indy with one of the most incredible national championships ever.

But its opponent, the Spartans, are battle-tested in March, on an incredible run of making six of the last 12 Final Fours under Tom Izzo. They are winning despite injuries and could be the team of destiny in this tournament.

On the other side of the bracket, two powerhouses face off to earn the right to be the favorite in the title game. Duke is familiar to the spotlight of the Final Four, playing in its 15th this season. It has tradition, it has Mike Krzyzewski, and it is the only No. 1 seed to make it this far.

West Virginia comes in with a chip on its shoulder, which can only be erased by beating the Blue Devils. The Mountaineers were the strongest No. 2 seed and Duke was arguably the weakest No. 1 seed in this tournament. And damn if they don't get to play each other to go to the national championship! You gotta love March.

Fishing team hooks top-three sweep

BY DRAKE SIMONS
STAFF WRITER

The GCSU bass fishing team remained in Milledgeville during the last weekend of spring break to sweep the three top spots in a local tournament.

Georgia Southern hosted the first-ever Georgia Southern Collegiate Bass Fishing Series "Sinclair Showdown" on Lake Sinclair this past Saturday.

The GCSU fishing team entered eight teams, competing against 14 other teams from Southern, Abraham Baldwin, Valdosta State, the University of Georgia, Southern Polytechnic State and South Carolina.

Teams scoured the lake from 7 a.m. until the weigh-in at 3 p.m. for the largest five fish they could catch. The total weight of the fish made up the final score.

When all the totals had come in, GCSU swept the top three spots. The top pair was seniors Matt Henry and Kyle Edenfield. Freshman Grant Kelly and sophomore Tyler Fiscus placed second, and brothers Matt (freshman) and Mitch (sophomore) Dockery came in third. An award was also given for the largest single fish caught during the tournament. Henry, the fishing club's president, caught the second largest fish overall, a bass weighing just over five pounds.

Knowing the lake was certainly

ly beneficial for the GCSU team. Henry estimates that team members are on the lake practicing three or four times per week.

Kelly was able to take advantage of his experience on Lake Sinclair.

"I decided back during the winter that I would fish one spot during the tournament with high hopes of catching fish from it. My partner and I caught around 40 fish during the tournament. This key area held 90 percent of the fish we caught," Kelly said.

Henry founded the club three years ago with current junior Jared Kutil. Henry has been fishing since he was two years old and wanted to represent GCSU at the competitive collegiate level.

"The collegiate fishing season runs year round, but the majority of the tournaments take place in the spring. There are approximately 20 tournaments that college teams can compete in over one year," Henry said.

Edenfield, Henry's partner for the tournament, decided to join the team after meeting Henry.

"I mainly compete because I fished constantly before I got to GCSU, but the main reason that I am on the team is because of Matt Henry," Edenfield said. "I met him in class, and he introduced me. From that moment on I was hooked."



Seniors Matt Henry and Kyle Edenfield show off their tournament-winning catch this past Saturday at the "Sinclair Showdown." Henry's largest fish (center) was the second biggest overall at the event.

THE SHORT STOP



Upcoming Sports

Baseball:
April 2 6 p.m.. Ga. Southwestern
April 3 1 p.m., 4 p.m. Ga. Southwestern

Tennis:
April 3 2 p.m. Columbus State

Quote of the Week

"This is probably the coolest thing that's ever happened in my life."
— Ronald Nored, Butler guard, after his team's victory over Kansas State to advance to the Final Four, the school's first ever.

Stat of the Week

7, 13

Disparity in Final Four appearances between Butler and Michigan State, and West Virginia and Duke, respectively.

Bobcats win fifth straight, nine of last eleven



Junior outfielder Shawn Ward rounds second on a fourth-inning double by redshirt senior infielder Brett George against Clark Atlanta this past Tuesday. The Bobcats put up four runs in the inning to blow the game open and held on to win 14-0.

BY SAM HUNT
STAFF REPORTER

The GCSU baseball team extended its winning streak to five games this past Wednesday when it swept Benedict in a doubleheader, beating the Tigers 19-2 in the first game and 6-3 in the second game.

“It’s what we expect to do in the middle of the week, we’re starting to play pretty good baseball,” head coach Tom Carty said. “We were a little bit sloppy in game two but we’re pleased with the two wins today and a win yesterday, you’ve got to be happy about it.”

The Bobcats were quick to pull ahead when they scored three runs in the first in-

ning, including a two-run homer-un from senior first baseman Matt Pitts, making the score 3-0. In the fourth inning, GCSU continued to spread the score margin when senior leftfielder Kyle Allen hit a two-run homer and senior centerfielder Sean Harrell hit a solo homer to make the score 7-1 in favor of the Bobcats. GCSU continued to pull ahead when in the fifth inning it was able to score six runs. The Bobcats added six more runs to the scoreboard in the sixth inning including two RBI from freshman catcher Cody Maas, earning GCSU a 19-2 victory in the first game.

When the Bobcats and the Tigers stepped on the field to finish the doubleheader, the second game went scoreless for the first four innings. Even though Benedict scored one run in the fifth, GCSU pulled ahead when Pitts hit a grand slam to set the score at 4-1. Then, an RBI by senior designated hitter Steve Muoio and a run by Allen on a Tigers’ error gave the Bobcats a 6-1 lead. Even though Benedict managed to score two runs in the seventh inning, they were unable to take the lead and the Bobcats won the second game 6-3.

“I think we pitched very well and played pretty good defense and our bats came alive towards the end of the game,” Pitts said. “We all swung the bat well, everybody played, everybody did their job so it was a good program victory.”

On the mound, junior pitcher Eric Pettepher had four strikeouts and gave up only one run.

This past Tuesday, GCSU earned its third shutout victory of the season against Clark Atlanta, a 14-0 triumph.

The game against the Black Panthers went scoreless for the first two innings. The Bobcats scored for the first time the third inning when an RBI from Harrell set the score at 1-0. In the fourth inning, the Bobcats continued to pull ahead when

junior outfielder Shawn Ward scored on a Clark Atlanta error, and RBI by Mass, Allen and junior infielder Jason Venya made the score 5-0. Six more runs by GCSU in the fifth inning made the score 11-0. A triple from Harrell in the sixth scored two, and a run on a Black Panthers’ error gave the Bobcats a 14-0 lead. Neither team scored in the final three innings and the Bobcats took the 14-0 win.

“It was a good victory and another region win, we played pretty well,” Allen said. “Clark Atlanta looked like they were a few players short, but a win’s a win.”

GCSU has won nine out of their past 11 games. On March 13-14, the Bobcats swept Augusta State in a three-game series, They won 22-3 in the first game, 8-6 in the second game, and 13-3 in the final game.

The Bobcats suffered a heartbreaking home defeat on March 16 when they lost to Lenior-Rhyne by one run with the score of 6-5.

GCSU got back into their groove on March 19-20 when they were on the road, sweeping No. 7 Columbus State in a three-game series. The Bobcats defeated the Cougars 9-7 in the first game, 12-7 in the second, and closed the series with a 4-3 victory.

On March 23-24, GCSU split a two-game series at Pfeiffer. The Bobcats defeated the Falcons 8-5 in the first game, but were defeated by Pfeiffer 9-8 in the second game.

The Bobcats were then on the road and defeated USC Aiken 2-1 in a three-game series on March 27-28. Even though GCSU was defeated 7-5 in the first game of the series, they stepped up their efforts and defeated the Pacers 8-1 in the second game and 14-12 in the final game, giving GCSU the series victory.

The Bobcats are at home today and tomorrow to face Georgia Southwestern in a three-game series starting at 6 p.m. tonight.

“We’re playing well in conference when it counts on the weekends, we’re a few weeks away from playoff time and I think we’re getting ready for that,” Carty said. “We need to practice and get back to some fundamentals defensively and get ready for Friday night.”

Tennis teams hit midseason stride over spring break

BY PRESTON SELLERS
SENIOR REPORTER

The GCSU tennis teams have been on a hot streak of late, with the men winning their last four matches to increase their streak to six overall and the women taking four of their last five.

Most recently, both teams traveled to North Georgia on March 30, and each came away with dominating 9-0 sweeps.

Sophomore Jerome Leborgne and freshman Johan Wadstein won at first doubles 8-6, while seniors Max Beliankou and Giovane Nucci swept their match 8-0 at second doubles. The Bobcats got the doubles sweep with a win from freshman Tyler Franks and sophomore Leo Bernardes at third doubles.

In singles play, the one-through-six lineup of Leborgne, Wadstein, Beliankou, Nucci, Bernardes and freshman Victor Andersson, respectively, earned victories with little challenge from the Saints.

The women’s squad kept pace with the Bobcat men, also taking all nine matches from the Saints.

At first doubles, senior Diane Danna and junior Bertille Lion earned a tough 9-7 victory, while freshmen Kayla Barksdale and Michelle Lingner took their match 8-4 at second doubles. Freshman Linda Mosa and sophomore Adriana Acuna teamed for an 8-6 win at the third slot.

Danna was dominant at first singles with a 6-1, 6-1 victory, while Barksdale started slow at second singles, down 2-5 before her opponent retired to give her the default victory. Lion and Lingner were not challenged at third and fourth singles, respectively, while Mosa battled to a 3-6, 6-4, 10-8 tiebreaker victory. Acuna was dominant in her win at sixth singles.

On March 19, head coach Steve Barsby was able to give his more experienced men’s players some rest, sending his reserves to Macon to face Tuskegee. The younger lineup responded well in a 9-0 victory.

Beliankou teamed with sophomore Bobby Angelucci at first doubles, while Bernardes and Andersson won at second doubles. The Bobcats took third doubles by default.

Beliankou, Bernardes, Andersson and

Franks earned shutout victories at the first four singles slots, respectively. Tuskegee forfeited its fifth and sixth spots, giving the Bobcats two more wins.

The women also earned a shutout win, with the pairs of Danna and Lion and Barksdale and Lingner earning doubles wins and Tuskegee forfeiting the third spot. Barksdale, Lion, Lingner, Mosa and Acuna all won at one-through-five singles, and the sixth spot was again forfeited.

On March 23, the women took on Montevallo with their traditional lineup, and came away with an 8-1 victory, the sole loss coming from Mosa at fifth singles.

Both teams traveled to Pensacola, Fla. for the White Sands Tournament on March 24 to take on North Alabama. The men came away with a 7-2 victory with the two losses coming at the top of the lineup. Leborgne and senior Joao Casagrande were no match for the strong Lions duo at first doubles, and Leborgne was also defeated at first singles by the Lions’ top player.


Wadstein earned GCSU athlete of the week honors for his four total wins at the White Sands Tournament. This was the first such honor for the promising freshman.

The women battled hard but dropped their match 5-4, getting wins from Danna at first singles and Lion at third singles, and stealing wins by default at third doubles and sixth singles.

On March 26, the men’s team defeated Delta State 7-2. In a rare occurrence this season, Beliankou was involved in both losses, dropping second singles with Angelucci and losing his singles match to a common doubles opponent, dropping him to 10-3 at singles on the season.


The women also earned a victory, this time in upset fashion over the No. 27 Statesmen. Barksdale and Lingner came away with the sole doubles victory, while Danna and Barksdale earned victories at first and second singles, and Mosa took her match at fifth singles. A grueling match at third singles decided the outcome, with Lion outlasting her opponent 1-6, 6-3, 6-3 to give the Bobcats the victory.

Both Bobcat teams are back in action today at Georgia Southwestern at 2 p.m.



Backpack

to



Briefcase

Intramural Notebook

by Caleb Rule, Staff Reporter

Pick a word or phrase: Nice, new, professional, soft, not flooded. Any of these would apply to the infields on the intramural softball fields at West Campus.

The most important adjective, however?

“They’re really smooth,” junior Cameron Lovett said. “Playing infield, there are less bad hops, and so it plays much more consistently.”

In the past, those playing infield battled unsteady footing often clogged with mud and then trying to field ground balls that could bounce at any given instant. Runners stopping at second base sometimes dealt with an impromptu slide, too.

“It’s easier because when wet, the footing is much more solid than it was last year, and baserunners don’t have to worry about sliding as much because the dirt is much softer,” junior Aaron Nobles said.

Intramural program assistant Chris Russell has heard nothing but positives regarding the play so far.

“There’s been no negative remarks this year, which is a stark contrast to previous years,” he said. “There’s a lot less rocks on the infield, and the bases are also sitting fairly level, which only improves the safety for everyone.”

One effect worth noting is the fact there has been one rain-out all season; last year, teams were often frustrated by one night of rain knocking out as many as three days of play due to poor field conditions.

“The biggest change has certainly been how the fields have handled the rain so far. In years’ past, we’ve had lakes out there, but now they drain properly and the turnaround is much faster,” Russell said.

“There was a night earlier this season where we thought we’d have to cancel games because it’d been raining lightly all day, but the fields were in pretty good shape, and fortunately we didn’t have to cancel.”

A major concern moving forward is keeping the fields at their current standard. Currently, games are played four nights a week, for five hours a night. In addition, the fields are rented to Walter B. Park Little League teams for practice two hours a day from 5-7 p.m. during weekdays.

That adds up to over 160 hours of use each field will see during the six-week intramural softball season.

“We’ll need to continue bringing in fresh dirt to maintain the standard the infields are at right now,” Russell said.

For now, however, players are reveling in the upgraded infields.

“It used to be ... like clay out there,” sophomore Kristin Cotton said. “Now you won’t get stuck chasing after a ground ball.”

Layout by Rebecca Burns

Softball drops doubleheader to cap off rough stretch

BY SCOTTY THOMPSON
SENIOR REPORTER

The GCSU softball team has experienced some more struggles over the past couple of weeks. The latest setback came as it dropped a doubleheader this past Wednesday against Columbus State. In the opener, the Bobcats fell 9-5, and in the second game they dropped a 10-6 decision.

Monday, the Bobcats faced their highest-ranked opponent this season in No. 10 Augusta State, and dropped a pair of games. Senior second baseman Kayla Smith’s homerun in Game 1 was the lone run of the day in a 5-1 loss. Senior centerfielder Allison Schwimer added two hits in the loss. Freshman Kristi Rodriguez took the loss for the Bobcats. A seven-run fourth for the Jaguars in game two blew it open and set up a 10-0 victory. Sophomore Haley Burnett took the loss for the Bobcats.

On March 16, the Bobcats split a doubleheader at Lander, dropping the first game 6-1, before rebounding to take the second game, 4-2. Burnett provided the Bobcats with their only run of the game with a solo homer in the second. She also took the loss on the mound, pitching six innings and allowing two earned runs, while striking out five. In the second game, the Bobcats scored four runs in the top of the first and made that stick in their 4-2 victory. Smith’s RBI double plated freshman third baseman Kelsea Martin. After a single by junior catcher Anna Parker scored Smith, junior Belourse Jean-Francais belted a two-run shot to give the Bobcats a 4-0 lead. Burnett entered in relief and tossed seven shutout innings, while only allowing three hits to

get the win. Sabrina Chandler led GCSU at the plate, going 2-3.

On March 19, the Bobcats suffered a doubleheader loss at No. 16 Wingate. The Bulldogs scored six runs off Burnett in the first two innings to cruise to a 9-1 win. Sophomore Jessica Solomon had a sacrifice fly to score Parker, accounting for GCSU’s lone run in the game. After giving up four runs in the opening inning of the second game, the Bobcats held Wingate in check, but their rally fell short in a 4-2 defeat. Smith and junior Brandie Monroe had RBI singles to pace the Bobcats’ offensive effort. Sophomore righty Caitlin Duvall took the loss for GCSU.

The misfortune continued for the Bobcats on March 21, as they dropped another doubleheader at Francis Marion. Trailing 2-1 in the top of the sixth in Game 1, the Bobcats took the lead when a two-run single by Jean-Francais brought in freshman pinch runner Melanie Goolsby and Parker to make it a 3-2 game. The Patriots regained the lead in the bottom half of the inning on a bases-loaded, three-run triple by Chelle Phillips to make it a 5-3 game and earn the victory. Burnett pitched a complete game for the Bobcats, allowing four earned runs and taking the loss. The lone highlight for the Bobcats in their 9-1 loss in the second game came on a solo homer by Smith in the fourth. The Patriots used a six-run explosion in the fifth to bring an early end to the contest.

GCSU (11-28 overall, 3-11 in PBC play) snapped their losing streak on March 24 with a 7-3 win over USC Aiken in game one of a doubleheader. Schwimer led the way, going 4-4 with four runs, a double and an RBI in the victory. Burnett added a pair of hits with three RBI. Burnett got the win in relief, going three and two-thirds of an inning, allowing just one unearned run and three hits. The second game proved to be unlucky for the Bobcats, as they lost 13-4. Burnett added two more hits and a home run in the losing effort. Rodriguez took the loss on the mound for the Bobcats.

GCSU returns to action this Saturday when they host Flagler in a doubleheader beginning at noon. The Bobcats then travel to Armstrong Atlantic on April 7. First pitch for that game is set for 2 p.m.



Senior Francisco Bide stares intently at the green as he reads a putt during the Bearcat Golf Classic this past Tuesday. Bide once again finished first for the Bobcats, and third overall.

Golf

Continued from page 15...

Bringing up the rear for the GCSU and finishing just shy of the top 20 was Joe Young, who shot a 72 on the first round, a 73 for the second round and closing out with a 71, giving him a total score of 216 and placing him 22nd overall.

The Bobcats begin playing in the Peach Belt Conference Championship, hosted by Columbus State, April 12-13. “Everybody’s got their own strengths and weaknesses and we just try to improve on our weaknesses,” Wilson said. “We’re trying to remain on an even keel, with not too many highs, not too many lows, and if we can get to that point we’re going to be just fine.”

Fishing

Continued from page 15...

The fishing team has been looking to attract new members and gather support for the team. They receive funding from the university and some of the members adorn their vehicles with large magnets with the GCSU Fishing Team logo. The added awareness has lead new students to join the team. “I have fished all of my life so when I heard GCSU had a fishing team, it helped me decide on going to GCSU,” Kelly said. As the day warmed up, supporters of the team arrived to cheer the team on. Edenfield was glad that the day turned out so well. “It was amazing to compete on our lake, and I have to say that we stood up to the challenge as a team by taking first, second, and third,” Edenfield said. “The guys on this team are



Drake Simons / Senior Photographer The Dockery brothers (freshman Matt, left, and sophomore Mitch, right) bag their fish for the weigh-in at the Sinclair Showdown this past Saturday.

awesome people and amazing fishermen, and we stood strong and protected our home waters well.”



FILE PHOTO Sophomore catcher Anna Parker looks for a hit in a game last month.

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